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SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA, WHA/CCA, WHA/PPC, AND WHA/CEN  
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SUBJECT: WOMEN FOR PEACE: COFADEH COORDINATOR NOMINATED FOR  
2005 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

**¶1.** Bertha Oliva, Coordinator General of the Committee of  
Relatives of Detained and Disappeared Persons in Honduras  
(COFADEH), has been nominated by the Project for 1000 Women  
for Peace in 2005 to receive the Nobel Peace Prize as part of  
a collective of 1000 women human rights activists. 1000  
Women for Peace was founded in 2003, with support from the  
Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Development  
Program, with the goal of identifying 1000 women in the human  
rights field to be nominated to collectively receive the 2005  
Nobel Peace Prize.

**¶2.** The nomination recognizes Oliva's more than 24 years of  
work with COFADEH to sustain peace and overcome hate and  
vengeance in the face of grave human rights violations.  
COFADEH began its work in 1982 when the families of twelve  
disappeared persons banded together to lobby for the safe  
return of their loved ones. In its first years, COFADEH  
primarily advocated government investigations into the cases  
of disappeared persons. In the 1990s, the group expanded its  
portfolio to include more general human rights work. COFADEH  
joined the Latin American Federation of Associations of  
Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared (FEDEFAM) in 1983  
and the Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central  
America (CODEHUC) in 1993.  
Palmer